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5977-01-EJB

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/936,680  
Applicant: COX, ET AL  
Filed: 09/14/2001  
Title: NOVEL FAMILY OF BETA SUB-UNIT PROTEINS FROM A  
VOLTAGE-GATED SODIUM CHANNEL, NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING THEM  
AND THERAPEUTIC OR DIAGNOSTIC USES THEREOF

TC/A.U.: 1646  
Examiner: BASI, NIRMAL SINGH

Docket No.: 5977-01

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

April 1, 2004

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 17, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks and amendments. A petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action for one month, from March 17, 2004 to April 17, 2004 is being submitted concurrently herewith.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper, and include a new abstract which is attached.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** are reflected in the attached sheet and in comments in the Remarks section.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.